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## FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

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### AUSTRALIA.

#### *Examination of rodents for plague infection at Brisbane and Sydney.*

The following information is taken from plague bulletins received from Consul-General Bray at Melbourne:

*Brisbane*.—Week ended December 8, 1906. Number of rodents destroyed, 361; examined, 280; found infected, 2.

*Sydney*.—Week ended December 8, 1906. Number of rodents destroyed, 1,644; examined, 462; found infected, 0.

### BRAZIL.

#### *Report from Rio de Janeiro—Inspection of vessels—Mortality—Plague and smallpox—Summary of mortality, year 1906.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, December 31, as follows:

Week ended December 30, 1906. Vessels inspected, and received bills of health, as follows: On the 27th instant the British steamship *Pretoria*, for New Orleans, in water ballast, with no passengers and with no change in the personnel of the crew; on the same date the British steamship *Hannah M. Bell*, for Key West, Fla., in water ballast, with no passengers, no cargo, and with no change in the crew personnel; on the 28th instant the American schooner *Margaret Thomas*, for Tampa, Fla., with stone ballast, no passengers, and with no change in the personnel of the crew; vessel not visited; did not sail until the following morning; on the 29th instant the Belgian steamship *Camoens*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, first-class and steerage passengers, and no change in the personnel of the crew, and on the same date the British steamship *Phidias*, for New Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and with no change in the personnel of the ship's crew.

No other vessels left this port requiring inspection or the issuance of bills of health.

*Mortality, Pernambuco*.—Two weeks ended December 15, 1906. Variola, 35 deaths. Total deaths during period, 261. Population, estimated, 210,000.

*Rio de Janeiro*.—Week ended December 30, 1906. Total deaths, 312. Plague, 12 new reported cases and 8 deaths; variola, 1 new case and no deaths. At the close of the week there were in the Hospital São Sebastião 13 cases of plague and 17 cases of suspected illness. Estimated population, 912,900.

*Year 1906*.—Total number of deaths, 13,913, including yellow fever 42, bubonic plague 111, variola 9, and tuberculosis, all forms, 2,768. Total in 1905, 14,660.